

# The Observer

THINGS INTERESTING TO THE DEAF

VOL. 1.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1910

NO. 26

## M. HENRI GAILLARD FRANCE'S NOTED SON

A robust gentleman of medium height, with the dark complexion, closely cut hair and full moustache of his nation; quiet in demeanor, but perfectly self-possessed; almost a double of Francis Maginn, of Belfast; such is M. Gaillard. We met at the hospitable board of the Rev. F. W. Gilby, M. A., and were assisted by our kind host over the pioneer difficulties of conversation.

Conversation, indeed, between two persons of different nationality and race, neither absolutely at home in the other's tongue, is almost of necessity confined to the shallows. In the retrospect, however, I seem to trace qualities constituting M. Gaillard a force in his own country. He knew what he wanted, and persisted until his program was accomplished, accepting from others only the most necessary guidance. I joined him in a tour that took in Holborn, Chancery Lane, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Soho, The Hyde Park, and included calls upon two friends. Finally, at M. Gaillard's suggestion, he was left at the Holborn end of Oxford Street to return unattended to the rendezvous, so that he might form his own impressions of the Titan City.

Henri Gaillard was born at Passy, Paris, on the 24th day of August, 1866. He is believed to have lost his hearing through catarrh at the age of 8. His consequent isolation often drove him from dreary class-rooms into the life and light of the streets and fields, where observation and imagination might have free play. In 1878 he had the unique experience of spending the whole year at the Paris Universal Exhibition, where his father was an exhibitor. This gave him a grounding in organization and public work that in after life has more than once stood him in good stead.

About his fifteenth year, Gaillard entered the National Institution for the Deaf, Paris. He was placed at once among the foremost scholars, and was carefully taught by the famous instructors of that day. While there, he was able to indulge to the full his love of reading, devouring every book that came into his hands. It is certain that this love of reading assisted his development, and he left school covered with literary honors.

As for a trade, Gaillard, rather against the grain, for he had a hereditary leaning toward work on the land, was led by circumstances to become a printer, and obtained a situation in Paris as a compositor.

Stoppages in the printing trade are frequent, and Gaillard, struck by the misery of his deaf fellow printers, who are the first to suffer when work is scarce, conceived the idea that a philanthropic institution would enlist for them the sympathies of the public, and resolved to found a printing business to be worked solely by the deaf.

To build up a concern of this character, as the writer knows too well, taxes all the resources of determined man. Gaillard's enthusiasm, perseverance and indomitable energy, however, overcome the difficulties of his task; his printing office held its own against its hearing competitors; so much so that at the Universal Exhibition of 1900 he was honored by his fellow master printers with a bronze medal. The greed of shareholders, however, brought the philanthropic side of this flourishing concern to naught, and Gaillard resigned the directorship. His present occupation is that of proof reader at the National Printing Office.

Gaillard entered into public work among the deaf about 1889, and he has filled the highest offices in connection with the clubs that in France correspond to the adult societies in Britain. In 1902 he was chosen president of the Federation of the Societies of the Deaf of France.

As a delegate of congresses and festivals of the deaf, Gaillard has toiled hard and travelled widely. At home he has presided over functions of his class at Aix-les-Bains, Grenoble, Rouen, Lyons, Lille, Vas-des-Bains, Nimes, Marseilles, Belort and Tours. Abroad, he has represented France at Chicago in 1893, at Geneva and Stuttgart, at Milan in 1906 and in 1907.

In 1900, as secretary on program of the Paris international congress of the deaf, he was the life and soul of the Deaf Section, and guided its labors with unflinching hands. The volume of proceedings issued by him, was the most elaborate work of its kind hitherto attempted in France. In 1905 he was similarly successful at Liege.

Henri Gaillard is by instinct and self-training a man of letters. Not merely is he a specialist on subjects connected with the deaf; he is also a fluent and brilliant general writer, and a novelist, dramatist and poet of undoubted talent. He is a member of the Societe des Gens de Lettres, to which the best French writers are proud to belong. The late Henry Remy appointed him chief editor of the "Gazette des Sourds-muets," but a difference with Remy causing a separation, Gaillard founded the "Journal des Sourds-muets," which in his hands was

a spirited publication. He demonstrated the ability of the deaf to discuss national politics by launching the "Republique de Demain," which attracted a circle of brilliant deaf writers, and by collaborating with hearing persons in founding and editing two weeklies, the XIV "Republicain" and the "Courrier de la Ville." In 1906 the "Echoue des Courts-muets" (founded by him after leaving the "Journal"), having succumbed, he was joined by an old school fellow, Felix Gilibert, in starting the "Revue des Sourds-muets," a modest but unspoken little monthly, distinguished by its fairness to all parties, and its zeal in the cause of the deaf generally.

These are but a few of the journalistic ventures in which Gaillard has taken part.

Gaillard is an Officer of Public Instruction, and holds the silver medal of the Mutualite. He is bearer besides of many other decorations and honors.

No one is better pleased than Gaillard to recognize merit in his fellow deaf, not a few of whom owe their cherished decorations to his influence. "Kindness, kindness always, kindness everywhere," is a motto Gaillard has adapted from our own Gladstone; and again the "entente" comes out in his device, which is none other than our "All right!"

In 1907, he attended the Congress of the British Deaf and Dumb Association, and the Conference of the National Association of Teachers of the Deaf, held simultaneously and in part jointly in Edinburgh, and at both gatherings he received many tokens of good will. At the Joint Meeting he expressed admiration of the great progress made by the British Deaf, and exhorted teachers to give to the suggestions made by adult deaf their best consideration. In London he also addressed, in the sign language, the members of the Social Club at St. Saviour's.

He is general secretary of "L'Avenir Silencieux," an association of social students composed of deaf-mutes and semi-mutes who endeavor to solve the interesting problems of the advancement of the deaf. As the general secretary of "Le Comite Silencieux de l'Entente Cordiale franco-anglais," he made the visit of the French deaf-mutes to London in 1908, as well as that of the English deaf to Paris in 1909, a brilliant success.

He is also the author of a new work entitled "Remise en question de l'Enseignement des Sourds-muets," which will shortly appear, in which he will criticize the oral method.

Young at forty-four, and in the prime of his natured powers, with years of experience and achievement behind him, an enlightened student of social questions who has awakened from his early dreams without losing his enthusiasm for social amelioration, may we not hope that still better work lies before him, and that he may live to see, as fruit of endeavors in which he has participated, the cementing of permanent unity and solidarity among the deaf of France?

T. R. GRAY, Alleghany, Pa.

# HANSON PLAN

(Concluded.)

By Olof Hanson.

The fight to have schools for the deaf separated from the unjust and harmful classification with the insane and criminal institutions should be carried on along similar lines. Many excellent arguments for such separation have been made from time to time, and are safely stowed away in my scrap-book. When we have the money they should be printed in pamphlet form. Then we should have an organization to attend to distributing them where they will do good, and enlist the services of parents and friends of the deaf, and also in some cases have our friends see legislators and others personally. To do this requires money. That is why I want the N. A. D. to have funds with which to carry on its work.

To extend the manual alphabet among the hearing we must first have money to print suitable cards properly mounted, then an organization to look after their distribution.

So the other projects which the N. A. D. should carry out all require more or less money. It is of the highest importance to have money in order to carry on our work. There are many deaf, most of them with limited means, but a small amount from each will make a respectable total which can be used to advantage. We have many able men and women willing to work. Give them a chance to put in their oars and the great ship will move beautifully.

In the Spear plan, as it is being unfolded by Mr. Axling, there is a suggestion to have an advisory committee, consisting of members in each state, who shall arouse interest and secure new members. It is a good suggestion, especially in the early stages of the organization, and I am glad to accept it, as I am willing to accept any other good suggestion. After the work of organization is fairly under way, however, the representatives elected by the various clubs would form the advisory committee. The members would certainly take more interest in a committee of their own choosing than in one foisted upon them by the central organization. Moreover, the people in each locality are in a better position to tell who of their number is most interested and capable than the president of the association, who cannot know everybody everywhere.

To recapitulate, my plan is as follows:

Membership to consist of individuals only.

Advantage to be taken of local organizations to maintain interest and secure new members.

The inducement to join is the right to vote and to have a voice in the affairs of the association.

Annual dues to be small, preferably 50 cents a year, in order to secure a large membership.

The association to be truly representative of the deaf, and the orally taught to be just as welcome to membership as those taught by other methods.

An official paper to be adopted and supported just as strongly as the deaf can unite on a single project.

The paper to be sent at the expense

of the association only to the duly elected representative of each club, but all other members to be urged to subscribe for the paper.

Officers to be nominated by mail vote, and elected in tri-ennial convention by delegates and proxies.

Representatives to be elected annually by the local clubs.

All that is necessary to affect these changes is to amend the Constitution so as to authorize those who are not able to attend conventions to vote by mail and through proxies; and give the executive committee authority to adopt such rules as may be necessary to carry these provisions into effect.

Comparatively few of the deaf can afford the money and loss of time necessary to attend national conventions. There are intelligent deaf in every locality who would gladly help the association if given a chance to participate in its work, without being compelled to go to expenses beyond their means.

By adopting this plan we shall have an association that shall truly represent the deaf, which will have the funds necessary to carry on its work, and which may be made a power in advocating our common interests and for the advancement of the deaf.

Seattle, Feb. 22nd, 1910.

## VANCOUVER, WASH.

The nice, balmy weather has at last arrived, and oh, how good the warm sunbeams feel!

Supt. Clark was on the sick list last week. He had an attack of neuralgia, which kept him confined to his room for several days. At this writing he is around again, performing his duties with the usual vigor.

The roller skating craze has broken out anew here. It is the chief sport among the girls at present.

The recent discovery of gold up in Idaho caused the perspiration to flow freely from the brow of one of the members of our teaching staff. The fact is that he has an interest in a mining claim in the same district where the great strike was made, and our friend is anxiously awaiting a cool million to drop into his hat.

Having attached the \$100 lens to his new camera, Mr. Schneider finds that he can take very minute details of the objects which he photographs. If this holds true of objects in the sky, we feel certain that Mr. Schneider has an excellent opportunity to "catch" the waggle in the comet's tail next May when it goes brushing by.

Our basket ball season closed on March 5th with a victory over the Tillicum Athletic Club of Vancouver. Our boys have made a splendid record this season, having won ten clean-cut victories and had only three defeats chalked up against them. Two of those teams that defeated them have since been conquered, but the third did not allow us a return game. Encouraged by the success of the basket ball team, the boys have started training for the baseball season, full of confidence in their ability to produce a winning team. The boys are raising funds with the intention of purchasing new uniforms and other baseball necessities.

Our anglers are making preparations for the spring catch. Fish rods have received their much-needed coat of varnish and the hitches in the fishing tackles have been removed and inspected with care. The most enthu-

siastic trio of anglers that we have are Messrs. Clarke, Marshall and Hunter, and the day the whistle sounds the opening of the season we expect to see all three of these fellows disappearing over the hills equipped to catch a mess of those speckled beauties which all sports love so well.

Mrs. McDonald has been appointed to fill a vacancy in the laundry till the end of the term. Her little son has gone to live with relatives for the time being.

Mr. Divine felled a giant fir on his farm a short time ago. It took a picked crew of our boys several days to saw it up into cordwood.

Several prominent Eastern deaf people are planning to make us a visit next summer just before and after the convention in Colorado.

Mr. Clarke enjoyed his visit to Spokane immensely. On his return he spoke highly of the deaf of that city.

The Institution sent the last of its hogs to the butcher last week. The carpenter boys have been refurbishing the barn and it will be converted into a chicken coop. We intend to try our hand at raising poultry for a time.

One of our boys possesses remarkable ability to become an expert cartoonist. Some of the sketches of the victims who fall prey to his pencil are indeed queer-looking creatures. Nevertheless, there is much amusement in these drawings and those who are unfortunate enough to get a "good" likeness of themselves posted on the wall have nothing to do except to "grin and bear it."

The other night during a visit to the attic among the cobwebs and old pieces of furniture, etc., a certain young man, whom ye correspondent will not betray, accidentally locked Mr. Hunter in. Although all the doors and windows were perfectly secure, Mr. Hunter got out in some mysterious way. He, however, refuses to tell us of the secret passage.

Mr. Howe Phelps, Jr., of Carthage, Missouri, writes that he is planning to make his home here in Washington, and will settle on a fruit farm. Now, what do you think of that! All the wise ones are coming to the Northwest, where they know the best opportunities are stored. We would certainly enjoy Mr. Phelps' presence among us, not only because he possesses a pot of gold, but because he is a young man who likes everybody and everybody likes him.

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## SPEAR PLAN

(By P. L. Axling.)

As promised in my last communication, I shall take up the question of voting under the Spear plan for the organization of the N. A. D. This is one of the important features to consider, and it is my belief that the simpler we make it the better it will be for every one concerned. It will leave no room for vote manipulating nor the complicated system proposed by the Honorable Olof Hanson. The delegates to the Colorado Springs convention ought to have sense enough to dispose of this particular feature in a practical, business-like manner. If they cannot do that there is no use in trying to make the National association anything better than it is now. We have a fairly satisfactory system of voting, but it is too narrow for the scope we want to make the association attain. Every member of the N. A. D. cannot be present at each meeting, but with a newspaper to keep every member posted on every move that is being made by those charged with the administration of its affairs, there will be sufficient interest aroused to make every one want to vote on certain matters, on officers, etc. And why should we not make our laws such as to permit every one to express his own sentiments?

Under the Hanson plan of voting we will have to have an army of secretaries at the convention to keep track of every vote. His plan will make a very few in each state the bosses, permitting them to determine on the policy to be pursued at the convention, and the votes will be cast to suit those few who are fortunate enough to be present at the convention. You cannot prevent that. The average deaf-mute takes too little real interest in every detail of work being done within the association of which he may be a member, and it will be easy for a few interested parties to control the votes to their own advantage.

Why cannot we give every member the privilege of having his vote cast by a proxy? He can instruct his proxy just how he wants his vote cast, giving a written proxy for this. These proxy blanks should be uniform, printed at the direction of the executive committee, and distributed according to the mailing list of the members who take the association paper by virtue of their membership. Give us the proxy system of voting, each member selecting his proxy and giving him his own instructions. The nominations for office and the principal matters to come before the meeting will of course have been announced in the association paper. Every one is supposed to be posted and to make up his mind what he wants in the way of legislation by the association.

The main thing about the Spear plan is that it will eventually make the N. A. D. a strong business organization, with a newspaper for the dissemination of news and other matters relating to the deaf and their welfare. It contemplates that we shall own our own printing plant and make it self-supporting, or rather make the newspaper and the printing plant one business and place it on a firm foundation, so that it shall speedily become a self-supporting, powerful business. Why not? What is the use of

our trying to run the N. A. D. without funds? What is the use of trying to build up a large membership and a powerful organization without giving every individual member some material return for the money he annually contributes in the way of "dues"?

The Spear plan contemplates more than any one has yet dared suggest, yet some of you are so timid as to say we cannot carry out the provisions of this plan if enacted into law for the government of the association. It is impossible to foresee everything that will necessarily arise in the conduct of the affairs of the association, for time only can tell what details must be attended to. The necessary thing to do now is to lay the right foundation on which to build. The foundation must be practical, clear-cut, devoid of theories and possible of sustaining a mighty structure. The first thing to know is where the money is to come from for making the start—for running the machinery until the business in view has attained sufficient proportions to gradually become self-supporting. This once accomplished, the rest will be easier.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

### REMEMBER

That all contributions should reach us by Monday night before the date of publication. Sooner if convenient.

### MRS. JOHN O'ROURKE.

Mrs. John O'Rourke, of Bradford, Mass., died Thursday, February 24th, of pneumonia. She was formerly Mary Alice Carroll, of Buffalo, N. Y. She remains were interred at Peterson, N. J. Mrs. O'Rourke had a sweet and lovable disposition. While at Buffalo she was a leader among the deaf and highly respected. On her marriage she removed to Massachusetts. Her sudden death will be a shock to many friends.

Mrs. Annette Mills' efforts to secure an endowment fund of \$60,000 or more for her Chinese school seems to be in a fair way to be realized. A Mrs. Kennedy of New York has already given \$10,000, and others are pledged. Mrs. Mills is in America to stay till her object is attained.—Ohio Chronicle.

J. Schuyler Long of Council Bluffs, Iowa, is another man who makes good in the editorial department of a daily. During the summer months he does general editorial work and "holds down the telegraph desk" of The Nonpareil in his city. He is educated by the combined method.

—If you suspect a man is not telling the truth do not be vulgar and call him a liar, but politely hint that he may be a relative of Dr. Cook.

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# THE OBSERVER

SEATTLE, WASH., MARCH 17, 1910

L. O. CHRISTENSON, Publisher.

The Observer is issued every two weeks on Thursday. It is published in the interest of the deaf everywhere.

## TERMS:

One Copy, one year.....\$1.00  
One Copy, six months......50  
One Copy, three months......25  
Canada, one year..... 1.50

Advertising rates given upon Application.

## CONTRIBUTIONS.

All contributions must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor is not responsible for views and opinions expressed by correspondents in their communications.

Contributions, subscriptions and business letters should be addressed to

L. O. CHRISTENSON,  
2 Kinnear Building, 1426 Fourth Ave.  
Seattle, Wash.

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## THE OFFICIAL ORGAN.

An exchange gives as a good idea of the Spear plan. It contains some good points and some that are not good. We will confine our remarks to the newspaper part. Among the duties of the secretary we find the following:

"He shall edit the Association paper, under the direction of the executive committee, etc."

In our opinion any such periodical would be a "wibby wobby," backboneless sheet. No man who is really great will ever consent to edit a paper under the thumb of a committee. If the N. A. D. is built up and becomes a power it is the utmost importance that we have a strong, independent paper to support it, edited by a man of intelligence, a man who knows how to edit a paper. The ability to reel off beautiful, high-sounding English as a hand organ does German music, fails to make a man an editor. He needs the judgment to discern what is news what will interest; what is worth printing.

True, there are men thirsting for official position and notoriety who will take the position under any or all circumstances, but such a paper will only call for another marble shaft in Mr. Gallagher's graveyard.

Get a man who can edit. Give him control, and give him reasonable support and an independent paper worthy of the association can be maintained.

We are still of the opinion that the best way is to adopt one of the present independent papers, leave it in private hands, with one or two pages controlled by the association and edited by the president or secretary. The rest of the paper to be run by a man who knows how.

## ON TO COLORADO SPRINGS.

The eastbound summer excursion rates have been given out by the various transcontinental railroads and the selling date for August is just in time for the N. A. D. convention at Colorado Springs. The date is August 3, which

## APPEAL FOR THE CHEFOO (CHINA) DEAF SCHOL.

Only about a month remains in which to send in your contribution for this school. We consider this the most important charitable object now before the deaf of this country, because it means assisting to uplift so many thousand of the down-trodden humanity. The education of the deaf of China means everything to them. Think of the work of the early instructors of the deaf of this country and then send in a contribution to help the work along in China and encourage that noble woman who has sacrificed so much to uplift the deaf there, Mrs. A. T. Mills.

The Seattle deaf are doing splendidly. Let's hear more from outside.

Portland deaf are soon to give an entertainment to assist this fund.

## READ THIS.

1. Send money in a safe way by registered letter, postal order, or express order. Make these payable to L. O. Christensen, 2 Kinnear Block, 1426 Fourth Ave., Seattle, Wash.

2. State plainly what the money is for.

3. Do not send promises, as no attention will be paid to such.

4. All money should be in our hands by April 15th.

5. Names and amounts will be printed in The Observer as fast as received.

Name—	Amount.
Through Puget Sound Association of the Deaf:	
Previously acknowledged .....	\$16.75
A. H. Koberstein .....	1.00
Mrs. Lelievre .....	2.00
Mrs. J. E. West .....	.25
Carrie Blakeley .....	.25
Annie McLaughlin .....	.25
Mrs. W. G. Jones .....	5.00

Total .....	\$25.50
From Vancouver (Wash.) Deaf School, the pupils .....	\$ 1.40
From Salem (Ore.) Deaf School, teachers and pupils .....	9.66
Grand total .....	\$36.56

will bring the excursionists to Colorado Springs in the afternoon of August 6. Choice of direct route returning is given the excursionists. The local agent for the Burlington line in Seattle informs us that a special tourist car will be run through to Colorado Springs if eighteen berths are engaged at \$4.75 each. About ten of the local deaf have signified their intention of going and probably eight of them can be counted on with certainty. Will the Portland, Vancouver and Spokane deaf join hands to engage the special car? The rate for a Pullman is double that of a tourist, which eliminates that proposition from consideration, and none of the Seattle people so far have shown a wish to hobnob with the millionaire class. The round-trip excursion rate is \$50, which also applies from Portland or Spokane. The Portland people can go by way of Seattle or via the North Bank road and join the party at Spokane without extra cost.

Jimmy Freddy Meagher, of Bellevue, Ky., in writing to an exchange calls the editor of this paper a snake. We wonder if Jimmy has learned to identify snakes since he moved to the moonshine state.

A new press has been installed in The Observer office since our last issue.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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## A PATCH NEEDED.

The Observer says that the deaf ought to raise \$5,000 for the moving picture fund, but I venture the prediction that the fund doesn't reach \$100.—A. L. Pach in Silent Worker.

I judge from the Observer advertising columns that the evolution of dram shop, saloon, cafe, sample room, etc. has reached its zenith in Seattle by becoming a cafeteria.—A. L. Pach in Silent Worker.

We arise, friend Pach, to remark that there is a crack in your head on which a good patch should be placed. The State of Washington alone will raise over \$100, in fact, the state treasurer already has more than \$25 turned in by three or four persons. As work has just begun in this line and there are 30 or 40 at it, Mr. Pach is requested to watch these columns for results.

No Seattle cafeterias sell liquor. Seattle deaf have no use for saloons, which probably accounts for the fact that they have plenty of money for worthy objects. Why does not New York city's big deaf population do something besides live off the fat of the land?

## MOVING PICTURE FUND.

The chain letter scheme of raising funds for the N. A. D. moving picture proposition has been abandoned, and instead A. W. Wright, the state treasurer, has been enlisting all the deaf people as collectors, distributing blanks for that purpose. He has nearly finished sending them out, and early returns would indicate that the fund would soon be on the move in earnest. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, of Tacoma, have demonstrated the "Watch Me" suburb will bear watching, sending in \$10 as a contribution of their friends. Other Tacoma people will report later. Mabton, in the Yakima valley, is not so very big, but it is represented by \$5, sent in by Mr. and Mrs. Litherland. When the returns are all in the complete list of collectors and the same each turns in will be printed in The Observer.

## INDUSTRIAL EXHIBIT.

L. O. Christenson, who is in charge of the Puget Sound part of the Industrial Exhibit, wishes all who intend to send articles to Colorado Springs to communicate with him, so he can make proper arrangements.

Do not wait. Get down to business now.

Dr. Gilbert O. Fay, of Hartford, Conn., passed away February 18th. He was formerly superintendent of the Ohio school, and later for many years a teacher in the Hartford school. Dr. Fay was one of those whole-hearted men that one loves to meet. He was a beautiful sign maker.



## MONTHLY MEETING.

The Puget Sound Association of the Deaf at its last meeting decided to hold its meetings hereafter in the Chamber of Commerce building, corner of Third Avenue and Columbia Street.

The entertainment committee reported no date set as yet.

Mr. Root reported about \$30 signed for the Chefoo (China) school.

Messrs. Hanson and Root, of a committee appointed to write to the business men of the city, presented a letter. This letter is to be sent out and deals with the employment of the deaf.

Church service was announced for March 20, at Trinity church.

The great event was the debate. Subject was "Resolved, That a College Education Is Beneficial."

Mrs. Olof Hanson took the affirmative and August Koberstein the negative. Three judges were selected. Each side was given 15 minutes introductory and 5 minutes to finish up. Excitement was great. Arms flew like the drive wheels of a locomotive. Arguments were thrown like a professional league pitchers and points brought home with the sure aim of a Zulu warrior.

After time was called each side was offered five minutes more. Mrs. Hanson was ready to proceed, but Mr. Koberstein, who has had experience in trying to out-talk a woman, declined, so the question went to the judges, who decided in favor of the affirmative. Mr. Koberstein, although beaten, made a good showing.

## ALL ABOUT A MAYOR.

Seattle's mayoralty contest is at an end. Party ties were blown to the wind. Olof Hanson stepped up and voted for Mr. Gill, the G. O. P. nominee. A. W. Wright could not stand for Mr. Gill, so voted for the Labor candidate, Mr. Miller. W. S. Root, it is suspected, flipped a coin, and voted for Mr. Moore, the Democrat man. L. O. Christensen says the Gill supporters sent around the finest auto, so he voted for their man, anyway. Messrs. Hanson and Christensen helped the boys whoop it up after election. However, Messrs. Wright and Root have two years in which to say "I told you so." He who laughs last laughs best. These men all voted for Taft the other time.

## A HOUSE TAKES A ROLL.

A 4-room house owned by John Adams, located on Vashon Island near Seattle, got frisky during a recent storm and rolled down a steep embankment. The house was empty, Mr. Adams and family having moved out a year or more ago. Although somewhat damaged it is not ruined and may still do good service.

Advertise in the Observer.

## EARLY SPRING FLOWERS.

Spring has come and bouquets are in order. The following we appreciate very much:

"The Observer is a fine little independent paper for the deaf, published at Seattle, Wash., and is the best of its kind since the days of "Once-a-Week" run by the late Prof. Kearney of Indiana and a staff of brilliant editors. It is an eight-page paper and came quietly into existence only last November, with Mr. L. O. Christensen as publisher. Here's wishing the paper and its publisher all success."—Mrs. E. F. Long (Council Bluffs, Iowa) in Silent Worker.

A slight error as to date,—The Observer begins Vol. II with next issue.

## ALASKA NUGGETS.

Mrs. Joseph Lelievre, of Seattle, whose husband is in Alaska, has some fine specimens of jewelry. One is a locket chain made of native Alaska nuggets; another is a locket, one side of which is glass, filled with small nuggets and gold dust. She also has a fine Yukon ring.

Few of those who read the Munsey and the McClure magazines are aware that the colored photograph engravings which embellish the covers are the work of a skilled deaf artist, C. J. Le Clercq, of New York.—Industrial Journal.

## LOCAL ITEMS

Mrs. A. T. Mill's third article on the Chefoo school has not yet arrived.

August Koberstein expects to leave for Alaska about April 3. He will be accompanied by Mr. Kittinger now at Bellingham.

The last heard from C. K. McConnell he was in the vicinity of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Waugh are entertaining Mr. Waugh's brother Fred from San Francisco. He likes this city.

Arthur Slightam is still visiting in and around Seattle. He returned to Seattle Sunday from Tacoma and left the same evening for Bellingham. He did not say how soon he would return to Spokane, but is scheduled there on or before April 1st.

Olof Hanson's features on the night of election day looked as if he had done vigorous physical work in behalf of some candidate. However, as we do not think anything human could put Mr. Hanson's face in that condition we will fall back on the supposition that poison ivy did it. Under the careful nursing of a lady who formerly taught school in Minnesota he has recovered.

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## ANOTHER DEAF MUTE ASSEMBLY OF THE ORDER OF THE AMERICANS

Gallaudet Assembly No. 64 of the Order of The Americans, the second deaf mute assembly of The Americans, was instituted at Los Angeles, Feb. 18, by Brother O. H. Regensburg and Isador Selig, both originally members of the First Gallaudet Assembly of San Francisco. A full list of the charter officers is announced that Past Chairman O. H. Regensburg, Chairman Isador Selig, vice chairman Mary Ellen Selig, secretary-treasurer C. H. Doane, chaplain J. Darney, senior sergeant N. Lambert, junior sergeant R. D. Depew, sentinel A. Amundsden, guard L. B. Cartwright.

As showing the interest taken in this assembly by the deaf mutes of the southern part of California, Brother Cartwright and his wife, new members made the trip from San Diego to be present at the institution.

The watchword chosen and adopted by Gallaudet No. 64 is: "Don't worry; watch us grow," and doubtless this will be lived up to religiously.

Congratulations have already been received from the Northern brothers and sisters of Gallaudet No. 14 of San Francisco, which the latter assembly is proud to know that the field of usefulness has been extended to their brothers of another city.

The presentation of the charter to Gallaudet Assembly No. 64 of Los Angeles was made the occasion for a public celebration at which Cabinet Officer and Past President J. L. M. Shetterley was present to make the presentation on the evening of Friday, March 4.

Past Chairman O. H. Regensburg made a felicitous address of welcome, likening the charter to the "Declaration of Independence." For several thousands of years the deaf have been misunderstood, maligned, and discriminated against their only offense was their affliction and in the days of the Romans, parents considering them a disgrace and a curse, put them to death by the sword, or by drowning. The Order of the Americans is the first fraternal body on record as officially accepting the deaf on the same plans of equality and fraternity and by doing so is blazing the trail for the emancipation of the deaf in the eyes of the fraternal world.

The address made a profound impression.

Past President Shetterley in making the presentation said it was an equally proud occasion to the Order, for in possessing such loyal and true patriots of the country as those offered by the two deaf assemblies, the Order is to be congratulated.

A Mrs. Ernest interpreted the speech into signs. Chairman Isador Selig in behalf of the Assembly followed in a neat speech of acceptance and referred to the work of Gallaudet Assembly No. 14 of San Francisco, which he had been connected with has been doing.

Secretary-Treasurer C. H. Doane was then called to the platform and was surprised upon being presented with a beautiful silver set of cutlery, the gift of the members on account of his approaching nuptials. The rest of the evening was devoted to a reception and refreshments were served.

At the March business meeting about

15 new applications were acted upon.

Gallaudet Assembly No. 14 of San Francisco is going to have a warm reception in honor of the visiting brother, C. H. Doane on March 12th.

Who will be the next third deaf mute assembly?

Maybe Seattle!!!!

S.

### SPOKANE, WASH.

The Spokane association held its regular business meeting for this month on the fifth. There was but little business of importance to come before the meeting. The entertainment committee made its report on the entertainments for February 25 and 26, and the subject of making collections for the moving picture fund of the N. A. D. was threshed out at length. The members wanted a clear idea as to the purpose of the fund, the good it would do the deaf in general, etc. Mr. Axling took the floor and went into the matter at length.

Arrangements for the mock trial to be held March 19 were announced by Mr. Arnot, the work being assigned to those who are to take part. This promises to be an interesting feature in our year's program.

Mr. Anton Schroeder, of St. Paul, Minn., spent almost a week in Spokane. He arrived Tuesday, the 8th, and departed the following Monday. During his stay he met most of the deaf who could be reached. Mr. and Mrs. Axling and Mr. True Partridge entertained him most of the time. He says he did a much larger volume of business in Spokane and Coeur d'Alene than he had anticipated. Spokane impressed him as being a fine city, all right.

Mr. Swangren, from St. Paul, a nice young man, but so forgetful as not to leave his initials, was visiting in Spokane Saturday and Sunday, on his way to North Yakima. He fell in with Mr. Schroeder in Spokane and had an opportunity to meet a number of the deaf here. He goes to North Yakima to look after the ranch owned by his brother-in-law.

Mr. Cecil Watson, son of ex-Supt. Watson of the school at Vancouver, is now making his headquarters in Spokane. He travels for a wholesale grocery firm in Tacoma. He will soon have his family here and will be joined by his aged parents.

Mr. J. H. O'Leary has now become a "regular" at the Inland Herald ad rooms. The scale at this place is above the union scale in the city and Mr. O'Leary is dreaming of great wealth.

Gilman T. Nordhousen has turned his back on Hillyard and put up his slip at the Spokesman-Review. He has been working pretty steadily there, with good chances of climbing to the top of the list of "subs."

Mrs. Susie Smith has been confined to her home with a severe attack of the grip the past two weeks. She contracted a cold the evening when she attended Supt. Clarke's address.

Mr. C. K. McConnell, of Bremerton, is expected in Spokane in a short time. He has been visiting his relatives in Omaha since early in December. He is not in Denver, Colorado, or Cheyenne, Wyoming, and will stop at Salt Lake and one or two other places before coming back.

True Partridge was in Butte, Montana, for two weeks recently, looking after the business of the branch house established there by the Paterson Dental Supply Co.

### TACOMA.

And so the editor wants a cow does he?

We have a cow, we shall gladly give her to the editor. The editor isn't asking for advice, but we shall request him to take the following bit of it along with the cow:

"When you feed her our copy give her also our usual allotment from the editorial spice-box.

We can foresee what pains of indigestion she will undergo, and knowing her proclivity for getting at the root of things, we can imagine the proceedings of the next few minutes.

Perhaps reading this will cow the editor to such a degree, that a real "female specimen of the lowing-kine" will not be needed.

"Let there be light was the slogan of the Slegel household one night last week.

But light there was none, excepting in the bathroom, the pantry and the attic.

Of course a kerosene lamp was called into duty, but what is that when one is used to electricity as a means of illumination?

Next day Mrs. Slegel decided they should have a chicken dinner that evening and pondered over whom she should invite to share it with the family, but finally decided on Mrs. Seeley. Happy Mrs. Seeley! Dinner was eaten by lamplight but she is used to that while she isn't quite as well used to chicken dinner.

Miss Elvira Hunt of Centralia is a new addition to the deaf of Tacoma. She has secured work in the Tacoma Steam Laundry, and expects to reside here for some time. She is at present boarding with Mrs. Wade.

What delicious weather we have had lately. It has offered the usual temptation to be digging and planting, only it has been quite too warm for exertion and one has been tempted to loll around and dream day dreams.

Sunday everyone seemed to be out visiting. Mr. Moore called on Mrs. Hutson was also a caller at the Wade's and Miss Slegel visited Mrs. Seeley.

The Hammond's took dinner with the Minnicks.

Mrs. Hammond has three hens setting and is going to set more. She has wonderful success in that line. We wonder why Charles doesn't purchase a farm?

The meeting to be held at Mrs. Hutson's is to be on the 27th, not the 21st, as stated in last issue of Observer. That is Easter Day and Mrs. Hutson will serve an Easter supper. The program for the meeting is to be a special one in honor of the late Mr. Hutson.

Mrs. Simon Eaton called on us the other day and with quite a budget of news. She is expecting to visit her sister in Ellensburg this summer.

The "school-ma'am" has received a lovely illustrated post card from some admirer in attribute to her acting at the Y. M. C. A. entertainment. On it is the following melodious verse:

"There are flowers and fruits upon the bonnet.

And rats are in her hair,  
But a mouse upon the floor, dog-gon-it,  
She goes up in the air."

She would like to personally thank the sender of that card, the mouse on it is such a cunning dear,—but he will persist in remaining unknown. Is he afraid?

Subscribe for The Observer.



## GOLDEN GATE GLEANINGS.

The Four Bits Camping Club, an organization composed of young deaf people of Central California, is now in a flourishing condition. Its membership is fully subscribed.

Ten members of the club took a trip into the hills recently in preparation of the long walks next summer while camping. The point of rendezvous was over the Berkeley hills to Fish Ranch, some miles beyond the State School for the Deaf.

The return home was made in a drenching rain along roads deep with mud. Three of the young ladies were fortunate enough to secure a ride home in a passing automobile.

We are looking forward to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Tilley's coming back to California with much pleasure.

The pupils at the School for the Deaf are to have short exercises in physical culture every morning in the class rooms instead of the former chapel services. These exercises are to be conducted under the supervision of the professor of physical culture at the University of California.

The wedding of one of Berkeley's charming maidens, May Ikin, to Mr. Clarence Doane of Los Angeles will be solemnized on March 17 at a quiet church wedding.

An entertainment, "The Sleeping Beauty," given by the pupils of the School for the Deaf at the assembly hall on February 22nd, was a great success. The hall was well filled, about 500 people being present. Great credit is due to the stage manager, Edith Nelson. Irene Hare, the princess, made a hit with the audience. Harold McNeilly as the prince, Willey Mitchell as the queen, James Knarstan as the king and Mollie Simpson as the witch successfully portrayed their parts. The dance of the fairies was a pleasing feature of the entertainment.

The Observer says thirty-five deaf people own real estate in Los Angeles or vicinity. In or near Berkeley, a city about one-tenth the size of Los Angeles, eleven deaf people at least own a share of mother earth. In Burlingame, a small suburb of San Francisco, a large number of deaf mutes own property.

Gage J. Hinman has returned from Gibsonville, where for nearly a year he shared with Hal Taber the delightful but dangerous experience of bear hunting among the snow-capped mountains and is now in Berkeley for a visit.

The shower party given in honor of May Ikin at Amy Brodrick's home, in North Berkeley, on Feb. 25, was a jolly affair. Among the invited were Misses Martha Hoffman, Edith Nelson, Willey Mitchell, Nora Simpson, Mollie Simpson, Carrie Crawford, Irene Lynch, Irene Hare, May Ikin, Flounce Alexander, Mrs. James W. Howson and Mrs. S. Brownrigg. May Ikin was showered with nice presents. Luncheon was served. Later the gentlemen came and enjoyed the festivities of the evening.

Among the latter were James W. Howson, Henry Frank, Fred Taylor, Walter Lester, Gage J. Hinman, Edward Brodrick.

Feb. 24 Mrs. Leon Richardson, daughter of Dr. Wilkinson, the former principal of the School for the Deaf, entertained at her home in Berkeley in honor of Mrs. Douglas Keith, wife

of the present superintendent. The guests included all the lady teachers and the wives of those who are teaching at the school. The deaf invited were Mrs. James W. Howson, Mrs. Theodore Grady and Mrs. Henry Frank.

On the same date a surprise party was given to Mrs. Joseph Beck, formerly of Salt Lake City, Utah, at her home by about twenty people.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.

## A BOUQUET FOR PRES. VEDITZ.

Occasionally, we discover a man fitted to the place he occupies. President George W. Veditz of the N. A. D. is one of that limited number. His renomination for a fourth term will come up this summer and our sentiment strongly favors his re-election. Why? Because he is an earnest worker as a friend of the deaf. He maintains the combined system but observes equal rights for all the oralists. Manualists and oralists find in him a man prompt and will to aid in any cause that is just. He invites their aid and co-operation; he seeks their advice; he is interested in them all; he invites them to confer with him either in person or by letter.

How can a re-nomination be denied to such a fearless man? These are the men we respect the most. What kept George W. Veditz in the N. A. D. three times? Because he was a worker, a man who was true to all.

Fidelity to trust, equal rights to all, devotion to duty are the elements that attract our love. These qualities cannot be denied to George W. Veditz, neither can a re-nomination, justly earned, be denied to him in the summer.—Fred T. Lloyd in Rome (N. Y.) Register.

(Mr. Veditz is not a candidate for re-election or Mr. Hanson would retire. This being the case, Mr. Lloyd should fall in line and help whoop it up for Olof Hanson.—Ed.)

A night school for the deaf has been started in Chicago by Mr. J. E. Gallaher, who was formerly a teacher in the Chicago Day Schools for the Deaf. It is, however, on totally different lines from the school that the New York Board of Education attempted to open and failed. It has nothing to do with or them. It is for the adult deaf. His school recently opened with six pupils.

Among northwestern patents recently issued, according to the daily papers, was one to Mrs. Ellen Hodgman for a washboard, and one to Mr. A. R. Spear for a mailing envelope. Minnesota ozone seems to be favorite to inventive genius, and invention is a field in which the deaf stand an equal chance with the hearing.—The Companion (Minn.).

## BEAUTIFUL THOUGHTS.

Look not mournfully into the past; it comes not back again. Wisely improve the present; it is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear and with a brave heart.

To little minds revenge may be sweet, but great and generous spirits feel a consciousness of dignity and merit in rendering good for evil, with which the pleasure of revenge cannot deserve to be compared.

We are builders of our own characters. We have different positions, spheres, capacities, privileges, different work to do in the world, different temporal fabrics to raise; but we are all alike in this—all are architects of fate.

Bright, cheerful, hopeful thoughts are friends that will insure success. The ambitious person should learn as early in life as possible to pick out the friends and enemies of success, and in many cases it will be found that the greatest enemy resides within themselves.

Much good work has been hindered by such anxiety to do better as deters one from promptly doing one's best. When we set our hearts on doing so well that practically we do nothing, we are paralyzed not by humility, but by pride. If in such a temper we succeeded in making our light to shine, it would shine not in glorification of our Father, but of ourselves.

Those who love nature can never be dull. They may have other temptations, but at least they will run no risk of being beguiled by ennui, idleness or want of occupation, "to buy the merry madness of an hour with the long penitence of after time." The love of nature, again, helps us greatly to keep ourselves free from those mean and petty cares which interfere so much with calm and peace of mind; it turns every ordinary walk into a morning or evening sacrifice and brightens life until it becomes almost like a fairy tale.—McCall's Magazine.

## HELLO, MR. PACH!

"I venture the prediction that the moving picture fund will not reach \$100."—Pach, in Silent Worker.

How's your digestion, Mr. Pach? Or, is business in little old New York so bad you take this gloomy view of the outlook? Then pull up stakes and come out West, where jackscrews could not keep the corners of your mouth screwed down.

A. W. W.



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## THE BINET-SIMON INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE VALUE OF THE ORAL METHOD

About thirty years ago the oral method was adopted in the schools for the deaf in France, by order of the Minister of Public Instruction, who had become converted to the oral method. Though not himself familiar with the education of the deaf, his word was law. A few teachers protested, but they were quickly cowed into silence, or relieved of their positions. The intelligent and educated deaf in France have often protested that the oral method was a failure with a considerable number of pupils, but no attention has been paid to these protests by those in authority.

Now, however, these protests have found corroboration and ample vindication from an unexpected source.

Alfred Binet and Th. Simon are two professors connected with the University of the Sorbonne in Paris. Their specialty is psychology, or the science of the human mind and soul. In the course of their work they decided to study the results of teaching the deaf by the oral method, for two reasons: First, the value of the study from a purely scientific standpoint; second, from a more practical standpoint—does it pay? In their own words, "What in fact are the services which this method renders to the deaf when they have gone out from school and are trying to make their way in the world? This is the question which we wished to answer."

Through the French government they obtained from the two schools in Paris, the National Institution and the Aisneres Institution, a list of pupils who had left school between 1892 and 1907. In order to keep the work within practicable bounds, the investigation was confined to deaf living in Paris. It was also limited to those totally deaf, who were born deaf or had become deaf before three years of age, thus excluding semi-mutes and semi-deaf who acquired their speech through hearing rather than oral instruction. It was also limited to those who, according to their teachers, had profited by the oral instruction "in an average degree," thus eliminating the feeble-minded and those who, according to the estimation of their teachers, which naturally was favorable, failed to profit by the oral method. The number of oral failures, according to the teachers' estimates, is surprisingly large, averaging one-third of the whole number of pupils. Concerning these oral failures, Profs. Binet and Simon say: "Might not these pupils have been spared an expensive instruction which has given only poor results? If it is true that with more than one-third of the pupils the oral method is unsuccessful, would it not be desirable to excuse such cases from pursuing it? Ought not all the pupils at the end of two years' trial, for instance, to undergo an examination, and should not the oral method be abandoned with those who do not profit by it, instead of prolonging the experiment for six

years or more?"

After the preliminary inquiries the professors personally visited the homes of the deaf, and sought chiefly to answer three points:

1. Can deaf-mutes converse with their own families?
2. Can they converse with strangers?
3. Is speech useful to them in business and social life?

To the first question their answer is "Yes and No."

To the second question the answer is "No."

To the third it is "No."

These answers are startling, even to us deaf, who know that a great many educated by the oral method fail to "make good" when put to the test in the work-a-day world. Even after making every possible allowance for unfavorable conditions these answers from disinterested, scientific men should make the supporters of the pure oral method pause and inquire into the shortcomings of this method. The report gives many interesting details of the investigation which cannot be given in this short review. The full report should be read by every one interested in the education of the deaf, and especially by the parents of deaf children.

In summing up the case they say: "Taking into consideration the preceding cases, and limiting ourselves to the totally and congenitally deaf, we refrain from concluding that the oral method is a total failure. We do not like such positive assertions; the truth has more delicate shades of distinction. If the oral method presented no sort of advantage whatever, it would not have held its ground in our schools for thirty years. But we believe that its practical value has been overestimated. It seems to us to be a sort of pedagogy de luxe, which produces moral effects rather than useful and tangible results. It does not enable deaf mutes to get situations; it does not permit them to enter into relations with strangers; it does not allow them even a consecutive conversation with their relatives; and deaf-mutes who have not learned to speak earn their living just as easily as those who acquired this semblance of speech. That is the observation which we made again and again, and with a persistency which seemed to us very eloquent."

As to practical recommendation they say: "We propose that in future it shall not be possible to place all deaf children, without exception and during their entire course, under the oral method. \* \* \* There should be periodical examinations, either every year or every two years, in order to determine what pupils have made so little progress under the oral method that it would be better, in their own interest, of course, to substitute for that method more instruction by writing and more industrial training."

The above conclusions by Profs. Binet and Simon are exactly in accordance with the American combined system which is advocated by the deaf throughout the world, and which is practiced in a large majority of American schools. They offer a stinging rebuke to the few oral schools, especially day schools, which persist in using only the oral method in spite of the fact that it has been shown time and again that many failures result under this method.

This interesting and valuable report was originally published in the French

periodical *l'Annee Psychologique* for 1909, Vol. XV., pp. 373-396. A full translation is published in the *American Annals of the Deaf*, for January, 1910, pp. 4-23, which may be obtained by addressing Dr. E. A. Fay, Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C.

OLOF HANSON.

Seattle, Feb. 22, 1910.

### A DEAF INVENTOR AND MANUFACTURER.

The editor of the *Companion* had the privilege recently of calling upon A. R. Spear at the factory, and found him working over-time filling an order for 360,000 of his mailing envelopes for a Winona concern. He said that he recently finished an order for 60,000 of his larger envelopes for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to be used in mailing seeds. He showed us a sample of his latest patent envelope, and said that he had already received orders for it. It has to be made by hand at present, as a special machine must be constructed for its manufacture. Mr. Spear thinks that as soon as he has the necessary machinery he can dispose of the new envelope in great quantities, as it has many advantages over the other kind, the chief of which is that, while retaining the pocket feature of the old envelope it can be filled and closed more quickly and easily by means of a gummed flap. Mr. Spear's business is growing steadily. He has other ideas along the same lines ready to patent, and we confidently expect to see him some day at the head of a good-sized manufacturing plant, turning out the products of his inventive brain.—*Companion*.

### WILD CHASE ON BROADWAY.

A lunatic running at full speed down Broadway, apparently determined to attack the driver of a garbage wagon, today caused an uproar along that thoroughfare from Thirty-fourth street to Twenty-third.

The driver, who was guiding his cart leisurely down the street, first noticed the man coming up behind him at Thirty-fourth street. His manner was alarming and the driver whipped up his horse to get away from him. The pursuer increased his speed and began to gain. The driver, then completely frightened, used his whip until the garbage wagon was dashing at fire-engine speed down the middle of the thoroughfare.

The other traffic on the street made way under the impression that it was a runaway. About Twenty-eighth street Policeman Cook took in the situation, and running out into the street captured the pursuer.

The policeman tried to question the man, but found he was deaf and dumb. He took him around to the West Thirtieth street station, where he was searched. His pockets were full of raw vegetables and useless bits of newspaper, but a letter was found explaining that the bearer was deaf and dumb and requesting that he be returned either to the Central New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Rome, N. Y., or to the home of his mother, at No. 387 East Third street. His name is Harry Plotnick and he is twenty years old.—N. Y. Evening Journal, Jan. 22.